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FEDERAL RESERVE STATISTICAL RELEASE

Z.1

Financial Accounts
of the United States

Flow of Funds, Balance Sheets,
and Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts

Fourth Quarter 2015

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM



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Recent Developments in Household Net Worth and Domestic Nonfinancial Debt

The net worth of households and nonprofits rose to \$86.8 trillion during the fourth quarter of 2015. The value of directly and indirectly held corporate equities increased \$758 billion and the value of real estate rose \$458 billion.

Domestic nonfinancial debt outstanding was \$45.1 trillion at the end of the fourth quarter of 2015, of which household debt was \$14.2 trillion, nonfinancial business debt was \$12.8 trillion, and total government debt was \$18.1 trillion.

Domestic nonfinancial debt growth was 8.6 percent at a seasonally adjusted annual rate in the fourth quarter of 2015, up from an annual rate of 2.1 percent in the previous quarter.

Household debt increased at an annual rate of 3.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 2015. Consumer

credit grew 5.9 percent, while mortgage debt (excluding charge-offs) grew 1.5 percent at an annual rate.

Nonfinancial business debt rose at an annual rate of 5.0 percent in the third quarter, about the same increase as in the previous quarter.

State and local government debt was unchanged in the fourth quarter, down from an annual growth rate of 1.7 percent in the previous quarter.

Federal government debt increased 18.5 percent at a seasonally adjusted annual rate in the fourth quarter, which was due primarily to the restoration of government trust funds that had been depleted as part of of the Treasury's "extraordinary measures" during the 2015 debt limit impasse.

Household Net Worth and Growth of Domestic Nonfinancial Debt							
Year	Household net worth ¹	Growth of domestic nonfinancial debt ²					
		Total	Households	Businesses	State and local gov'ts	Federal government	
2006	66,073	8.4	10.5	9.8	3.9	3.9	
2007	66,536	8.1	7.2	12.4	5.5	4.7	
2008	56,159	5.8	-0.1	6.0	0.6	21.4	
2009	58,066	3.5	0.3	-4.1	4.0	20.4	
2010	62,275	4.4	-0.5	-0.7	2.3	18.5	
2011	63,423	3.5	-0.5	2.8	-1.7	10.8	
2012	69,579	5.0	1.9	4.7	-0.2	10.1	
2013	79,390	4.0	1.7	4.9	-1.3	6.7	
2014	84,189	4.5	3.1	6.3	-0.5	5.4	
2015	86,797	4.5	2.8	6.6	1.8	5.0	
2013:	Q4	79,390	6.0	1.5	3.9	-2.8	14.4
2014:	Q1	80,626	4.1	1.9	6.3	-1.7	5.7
	Q2	82,242	4.3	5.2	5.2	0.1	3.5
	Q3	82,520	4.5	3.0	5.9	-1.7	6.0
	Q4	84,189	4.7	2.2	7.0	1.5	5.9
2015:	Q1	85,996	2.6	1.8	7.5	4.3	-1.1
	Q2	86,481	4.6	4.3	8.4	1.0	2.4
	Q3	85,160	2.1	1.6	4.9	1.7	0.2
	Q4	86,797	8.6	3.4	5.0	0.0	18.5

1. Shown on table B.101, which includes nonprofit organizations. Billions of dollars; amounts outstanding end of period, not seasonally adjusted

2. Percentage changes calculated as seasonally adjusted flow divided by previous quarter's seasonally adjusted level, shown at an annual rate.

Release Highlights Fourth Quarter 2015

Topic	Description
Effective federal funds rate	A memo item showing the effective federal funds rate in percent is now included on the federal funds and security repurchase agreements instrument table (L.207). The effective federal funds rate is a weighted average of rates on brokered trades, annualized using a 360-day year.
FHLB advances	Federal home loan bank (FHLB) advances are now shown separately from other government-sponsored enterprise (GSE) loans on the other loans and advances instrument table (tables F.216 and L.216). FHLB advances to insurance companies are broken down further into loans to life insurance companies, property and casualty insurance companies, and captive insurance companies that are affiliated with finance companies and real estate investment trusts (REITs). Also, equity in the FHLB held by these sectors is now shown on the identified miscellaneous financial claims – part 1 instrument table (tables F.232 and L.232).
New Enhanced Financial Accounts projects	Two new Enhanced Financial Accounts (EFA) projects: (1) State and Local Government Defined Benefit Pension Plans: State-level Detail, and (2) Depository Institutions: Mortgage and Consumer Loan Portfolios by Probability of Default have been added to our EFA page at www.federalreserve.gov/apps/fof/efa/enhanced-financial-accounts.htm .
Expansion of international data submissions	The “International Data Submissions” page of the “Financial Accounts Guide” includes five new tables and SDMX files for IMF Financial Soundness Indicators (FSIs). These include Table 1. Data Report Form for FSIs and Underlying Series, Annex 5. Sectoral Financial Statement: Other Financial Corporations – Balance Sheet, Annex 6. Sectoral Financial Statement: Nonfinancial Corporations – Income and Expense Statement, Annex 7. Sectoral Financial Statement: Nonfinancial Corporations – Balance Sheet, and Annex 8. Sectoral Financial Statement: Households.
FEDS Notes	A number of new FEDS notes are now available: “Introducing Section 529 Plans into the U.S. Financial Accounts and Enhanced Financial Accounts” (Madeline McCullers and Irina Stefanescu), “Saving for College and Section 529 Plans” (Simona Hannon, Kevin Moore, Max Schmeiser, and Irina Stefanescu), “State and Local Pension Funding in the Enhanced Financial Accounts” (Matthew Hoops, Paul Smith, and Irina Stefanescu), “Funding Agreement-backed Securities in the Financial Accounts of the United States” (Elizabeth Holmquist and Maria Perozek), and “Corporate Equities by Issuer in the Financial Accounts of the United States” (Damian Thomas, Missaka Warusawitharana, and Rick Ogden).

Explanatory Notes

Financial Accounts of the United States

The Statistical Release Z.1, “Financial Accounts of the United States,” is organized into the following sections:

- Matrices summarizing flows and levels across sectors, tables on debt growth, net national wealth, gross domestic product (GDP), national income, saving, and so on
- Flows of financial assets and liabilities, by sector and by financial instrument
- Levels of financial assets and liabilities, by sector and by financial instrument
- Balance sheets, including nonfinancial assets, and changes in net worth for households and nonprofit organizations, nonfinancial corporate businesses, and nonfinancial noncorporate businesses
- Supplementary tables providing equity detail of the household and nonprofit organization sector and data on nonprofit organizations
- Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts

The Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts (IMA) relate production, income, saving, and capital formation from the national income and product accounts (NIPA) to changes in net worth from the “Financial Accounts” on a sector-by-sector basis. The IMA are published jointly by the Federal Reserve Board and the Bureau of Economic Analysis and are based on international guidelines and terminology as defined in the System of National Accounts (SNA2008).

Federal Reserve Board staff have taken many steps over the past several years to conform the “Financial Accounts” with the SNA guidelines. Nonetheless, a few important differences remain. In particular, in the “Financial Accounts”:

- The purchase of consumer durables is treated as investment rather than as consumption.
- Nonfinancial noncorporate businesses (which are often small businesses) are shown in a separate sector rather than being included in the household sector.
- Most debt securities are recorded at book value rather than market value.

Concepts of Level and Flow in the SNA and the Financial Accounts

The level of an asset or liability (also referred to as the stock or outstanding) measures the value of the asset or

liability in existence at a point in time. In the “Financial Accounts,” the levels are reported as of the end of each calendar quarter. In the SNA2008, the change in the level from one period to the next is called the “economic flow,” and can be decomposed into three broad elements: *transactions*, which measure the exchange of assets; *revaluations*, which measure changes in market value of untraded assets; and *other changes in volume*, which measure discontinuities or breaks in time series due to disaster losses or a change in source data or definition.

In the “Financial Accounts,” “flows” refer to the exchange of assets, corresponding to the SNA definition of transactions, that is, “flow tables” in the “Financial Accounts” are equivalent to “transaction tables” in the SNA terminology. In practice, other volume changes are relatively rare, and revaluations occur only for series carried at market value (such as corporate equities and mutual fund shares), so for many series the change in the level is equal to the flow.

Growth Rates

Growth rates calculated from levels will include revaluations and other changes in volume. To isolate the effect of transactions on growth of a given asset or liability, users should calculate the ratio of the flow in a given period to the level in the preceding period.

Growth rates in table D.1 are calculated by dividing seasonally adjusted flows from table D.2 by seasonally adjusted levels at the end of the previous period from table D.3. Growth rates calculated from changes in unadjusted levels may differ from those in table D.1.

Seasonal Adjustment

Seasonal factors are recalculated and updated every year, and these revised factors are first published in the September release of second-quarter data. All series that exhibit significant seasonal patterns are adjusted. The seasonal factors are generated using the X-12-ARIMA seasonal adjustment program from the U.S. Census Bureau, estimated using the most recent 10 years of data. Because the effects of the recent financial crisis resulted in large outliers in some series that would have distorted the estimated seasonal factors, seasonal factors for some series were extrapolated using pre-crisis data. Seasonally adjusted levels shown in table D.3 are derived by carrying forward year-end levels by seasonally adjusted flows.

Data Revisions

Data shown for the most recent quarters are based on preliminary and potentially incomplete information. A summary list of the most recent data available for each sector is provided in a table following these notes. Nonetheless, when source data are revised or estimation methods are improved, all data are subject to revision. There is no specific revision schedule; rather, data are revised on an ongoing basis. In each release of the “Financial Accounts,” major revisions are highlighted at the beginning of the publication.

Discrepancies

The data in the “Financial Accounts” come from a large variety of sources and are subject to limitations and uncertainty due to measurement errors, missing information, and incompatibilities among data sources. The size of this uncertainty cannot be quantified, but its existence is acknowledged by the inclusion of “statistical discrepancies” for various sectors and financial instruments.

The discrepancy for a given sector is defined as the difference between the aggregate value of the sector’s sources of funds and the value of its uses of funds. For a financial instrument category, the discrepancy is defined as the difference between the measurement of funds raised through the financial instrument and funds disbursed through that instrument. The relative size of the statistical discrepancy is one indication of the quality of the underlying source data. Note that differences in seasonal adjustment procedures sometimes result in quarterly discrepancies that partially or completely offset each other in the annual data.

Financial Accounts Guide

Substantially more detail on the construction of the “Financial Accounts” is available in the *Financial Accounts Guide*, which provides interactive, online documentation for each data series. The tools and descriptions in the guide are designed to help users understand the structure and content of the “Financial Accounts.” The guide allows users to search for series, browse tables of data, and identify links among series within these accounts. It also provides descriptions of each of the published tables and information on the source data underlying each series. Data on some of our data submissions to international organizations are also available on the guide page. There is also a link to the Enhanced Financial Accounts, a new initiative that includes data that is not part of the core “Financial Accounts”.

The guide is not part of the quarterly release, but it is continually updated and kept consistent with the most recently published data. The guide and the data from the “Financial Accounts” are available free of charge online:

www.federalreserve.gov/apps/fof

Each input and calculated series in the Z.1 is identified according to a unique string of patterned numbers and letters. The series structure page of the guide provides a breakdown of what the letters and numbers represent in the series mnemonics. The relationships between different components of a series (for example, levels, seasonally adjusted annual rate flows, unadjusted flows, revaluations, other changes in volume, seasonal factors, and so on) are also described on the series structure page.

Production Schedule

The “Financial Accounts” are published online and in print four times per year, about 10 weeks following the end of each calendar quarter. The publication and the guide are available online:

www.federalreserve.gov/releases/Z1

This website provides coded tables and historical annual tables beginning in 1945 that correspond with the tables published in this release. It also includes compressed ASCII files of quarterly data for seasonally adjusted flows, unadjusted flows, outstandings, balance sheets, debt (tables D.1, D.2, and D.3), supplementary tables, and the IMA.

In addition, the data are available as customizable datasets through the Federal Reserve Board’s Data Download Program at:

www.federalreserve.gov/datadownload/default.htm

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Publications Services, Stop 127
Board of Governors
of the Federal Reserve System
20th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20551
(202) 452-3245

Description of Most Recent Data Available

Sector Table	Available at time of publication
National income and product accounts (NIPA) (various tables)	Second estimate, seasonally adjusted, for 2015:Q4. Unadjusted flows through 2014:Q4 for the government sectors.
Households and nonprofit organizations sector (tables F.101 and L.101)	Estimates for this sector are largely residuals and are derived from data for other sectors. Availability of data depends on schedules for other sectors. Data for consumer credit, which are estimated directly, are available through 2015:Q4. The source for nonprofit organizations data (tables F.101.a and L.101.a) is the Internal Revenue Service <i>Statistics of Income</i> (IRS/SOI). Data for nonprofit organizations are available for 1987 through 2000.
Nonfinancial corporate business (tables F.102 and L.102)	<i>Quarterly Financial Report</i> (QFR) of the Census Bureau through 2015:Q3 (preliminary); IRS/SOI data through 2013; securities offerings, mortgages, bank loans, commercial paper, and other loans through 2015:Q4. Corporate farm data through 2014.
Nonfinancial noncorporate business (tables F.103 and L.103)	IRS/SOI data through 2013; bank and finance company loans, and mortgage borrowing through 2015:Q4. Noncorporate farm data through 2014.
Federal government (tables F.106 and L.106)	Data from the <i>Monthly Treasury Statement of Receipts and Outlays</i> , <i>Monthly Statement of the Public Debt</i> and Treasury data for loan programs and the Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP) through 2015:Q4.
State and local governments (tables F.107 and L.107)	Gross offerings and retirements of municipal securities, deposits at banks, and nonmarketable U.S. government security issues through 2015:Q4; total financial assets through 2012:Q2 from the Census Bureau; breakdown of financial assets through 2011:Q2 from the comprehensive annual financial reports of state and local governments.
Monetary authority (tables F.109 and L.109)	All data through 2015:Q4.
U.S.-chartered depository institutions (tables F.111 and L.111)	All data through 2015:Q4.
Foreign banking offices in U.S. (tables F.112 and L.112)	All data through 2015:Q4.
Banks in U.S.-affiliated areas (tables F.113 and L.113)	All data through 2015:Q4.
Credit unions (tables F.113 and L.113)	All data through 2015:Q4.
Property-casualty insurance companies (tables F.115 and L.115)	All data through 2015:Q3.

Sector Table	Available at time of publication
Life insurance companies (tables F.116 and L.116)	All data through 2015:Q3.
Private pension funds (tables F.118 and L.118)	Internal Revenue Service/Department of Labor Form 5500 data through 2013. Investment Company Institute data through 2015:Q3.
Federal government retirement funds (tables F.119 and L.119)	Data from the <i>Monthly Treasury Statement of Receipts and Outlays</i> , the Thrift Savings Plan, and the National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust through 2015:Q4.
State and local government employee retirement funds (tables F.120 and L.120)	Detailed annual survey data through 2014:Q2 and quarterly survey data through 2015:Q3 from the Census Bureau. Investment Company Institute data through 2015:Q3.
Money market mutual funds (tables F.121 and L.121)	All data through 2015:Q4.
Mutual funds (tables F.122 and L.122)	All data through 2015:Q4.
Closed-end funds (tables F.123 and L.123)	All data through 2015:Q4.
Exchange-traded funds (tables F.123 and L.123)	All data through 2015:Q4.
Government sponsored enterprises (GSEs) (tables F.124 and L.124)	Data for Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, FICO, and REFCORP through 2015:Q4. Data for Farmer Mac, FCS, and FHLB through 2015:Q3. FHLB Advances and Equity current through 2015:Q4.
Agency- and GSE-backed mortgage pools (tables F.125 and L.125)	Data for Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and Farmer Mac through 2015:Q4.
Issuers of asset-backed securities (ABSs) (tables F.126 and L.126)	All data for private mortgage pools, consumer credit, business loans, student loans, consumer leases, and trade credit securitization through 2015:Q4.
Finance companies (tables F.127 and L.127)	All data through 2015:Q4.
Real estate investment trusts (REITs) (tables F.128 and L.128)	Data from SNL Financial through 2015:Q3.
Security brokers and dealers (tables F.129 and L.129)	Data for firms filing FOCUS and FOGS reports through 2015:Q4.
Holding companies (table F.130 and L.130)	All data through 2015:Q4.
Funding corporations (tables F.131 and L.131)	Estimates for this sector are largely residuals and are derived from data for other sectors.
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